REMARKS

The specification has been amended to make a further editorial change therein.

The indication that claims 1-17 have been allowed is acknowledged with thanks.

Claims 18 and 20-32 were rejected as unpatentable over MICHELSON et al. 6,665,730 in view of YAMAMOTO 5,991,276. Claim 19 was rejected as unpatentable further in view of WANG et al. 6,636,505. Claims 23 and 25-32 have been canceled and claim 24 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 27. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of 18-22 and 24 are respectfully requested.

Claim 18 defines an ATM name system (ANS) for a network system that carries out a conference between calling and destined conference room terminals through an ATM network, the ANS being located in an additional network different from the ATM network and including a connector between the calling conference room terminal and the ANS, and processing means for processing a request for address resolution sent from the calling conference room terminal through the additional network to resolve an AESA related to the destined conference room terminal on the ATM network and to thereby make the calling conference room terminal establish a connection between the destined conference room terminal by the use of the resolved AESA.

Such a system is shown, by way of example, in Figure 13 and discussed beginning at page 31 of the present application. As disclosed therein, the ANS 5 is located in an additional network (LAN 6) different from the ATM network 10 and including a connector between the calling conference room terminal and the ANS (the line between LAN 6 and the first conference room terminal 1), and processing means (5a-d) for processing a request for address resolution sent from the calling conference room terminal 1 through the additional network to resolve an AESA related to the destined conference room terminal 2 on the ATM network 10 and to thereby make the calling conference room terminal 1 establish a connection between the destined conference room terminal 2 by the use of the resolved AESA.

The Official Action states that MICHELSON et al. discloses an ANS located in an additional network different from the ATM network. The cited sections have been carefully reviewed but they do not indicate that the ANS is located in such an additional network. Indeed, the cited sections do not state where the ANS is connected. They indicate that the invention may be used in several types of networks, but does not disclose this limitation of claim 18. YAMAMOTO also does not disclose an ANS connected as claimed in claim 18 (Figure 2 appears to show a connection to the ATM network), and thus one of skill in the art would not find claim 18 obvious from the proposed combination.

Claims 19-22 depend from claim 18 and are allowable therewith.

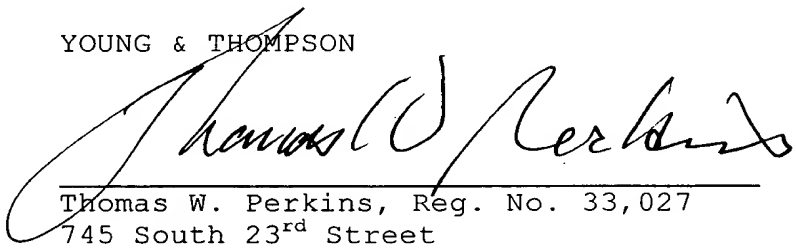
Claim 24 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 27, which provides that the ANS is connected to each conference room terminal through a LAN (local area network) different from the ATM network. As explained above, the applied references do not disclose this connection and thus claim 24 is also believed to be allowable over the art of record.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON



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